

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Gary D. HODGEN et al.

Serial No.: 08/462,703

Filed: June 5, 1995

For: **ANTIPROGESTIN METHOD AND KIT FOR REDUCING SIDE EFFECTS  
ASSOCIATED WITH LOW DOSAGE HRT, ORAL CONTRACEPTION AND  
REGULATING MENSES**

Group Art Unit: 1614

Examiner: K. Jordan

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of June 9, 1998, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the rejections made in the mentioned office action is requested.

The Examiner notes that the references establish the conventionality of E+P and P-only contraceptive modalities. The Examiner also notes that Hodgen discloses the contraceptive effect of progesterone antagonists (AP-antiprogestins) based on their ability at specified dosages to "block ovulation in the primate menstrual cycle" (page 66, column 1). It is, of course, well known that both the E+P and P-only contraceptive regimens do not block ovulation. See, e.g., column 4, lines 1-6, column 5, lines 42-46, etc. of Black. The Examiner does not provide a rationale for why it would be obvious from these references to combine an ovulation-blocking modality with an ovulation-permissive modality to achieve contraception. The references do not provide the necessary motivation to arrive at the combination alleged by the Examiner.

SCH 1309 C3